

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

---

Answering God's call to love

---

**Messiah ENewsletter for August 25, 2021**

## Messiah Events & News

On the web...

go to [messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://messiahlutheranmqt.org) for more information about our congregation and “like” us on Facebook to receive updates and information there.

---

*Messiah Lutheran Church seeks to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion.*

*We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant and eternal life.*

*We may not always be as welcoming as we should be,  
but this is our intention—all are welcome!*



---

### Marquette Area MOPS Open House Tomorrow

The MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) will hold an open house at Messiah on Thursday August 26 from 5:30 to 7 PM. MOPS is a community of moms brought together to support one another through the struggles and joys of raising young children. The group meets once a month during the school year at Messiah.

---

## **Produce Swap at Messiah**

It's that time of year where all of our gardeners share the bounty of their gardens with friends and neighbors. During the next few weeks we are setting up a table at Messiah where people can bring their produce to share, or to take some produce home with them. We are looking forward to "sharing the harvest" with the Messiah community.

---

## **Ingathering for Lutheran World Relief at Messiah**

This year our ingathering of quilts, school kits, personal care kits, and baby care kits for Lutheran World Relief will be held at Messiah on Saturday October 2 from 9 am to 1 pm. Churches from the central and western UP will be unloading their items for storage in Messiah's education wing; and early the following week Messiah volunteers will be loading everything on a U-Haul for transport to the LWR warehouse in St. Paul. Please watch for a volunteer sign-up sheet on the welcome table in the next few weeks. Volunteers will be needed on October 2 as well as the following week (the date of the U-Haul loading will be determined soon).

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the U-Haul and gasoline expense, please send a check with a notation of LWR U-Haul in the memo line.

We greatly appreciate the faithful work of our Messiah quilters and our Women of the ELCA circles who work to get quilts made and kits assembled. We also thank Les Scheuren who will be transporting all of these items to St. Paul.

---

## **Year of Discovery Task Force Update**

At our May 2021 Synod Assembly, our Northern Great Lakes Synod strongly passed a "Resolution on the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery." The Doctrine of Discovery was one of the foundations to justify colonization and mistreatment of Indigenous people in the name of the Christian church. As part of the Synod Assembly week, we hosted a listening panel as five tribal members were able to share their personal stories. For many members of our synod, this might have been their first exposure to the issues facing our Native Americans siblings.

Many people are now asking the question, "Now what?"

The Task Force on the Year of Discovery continues to meet and discuss intentional ways to engage with our Indigenous siblings in our area. We are discerning that relationships with the various tribes in our synod are best done on the local tribal level. Each tribe has their own unique opportunities and challenges. So, we are encouraging those local relationships and understandings rather than one "synod-wide" strategy.

Here's a quick summary of some of those local efforts:

Pastor Dave Van Kley, Pastor Bre Kinnunen, and Dr. Mike Coyne have met with leaders at the Center for Native American Studies at Northern Michigan University. They listened to what is going on at NMU and in the Marquette community and some important priorities.

Assistant to the Bishop, Jim Duehring attended a Native Justice Coalition event in Rapid River, Michigan. He heard about the realities of "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples."

Bishop Katherine Finegan and Pastor Bucky Beach and Pastor Julie Belew attended a Water Walk as part of the Pow Wow week with the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community in Baraga, Michigan.

Pastor Melinda VanderSys is working to establish a network in the Eastern U.P.

Pastor Grant Van Lishout from the Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center in Arbor Vitae, Wisconsin reports that Marywood is already engaging in dialogue with the Lac du Flambeau tribe in Northern Wisconsin.

Pastor Scott Ehle is building relationships with the Native community in Menominee, Michigan.

Pastor Bucky Beach, Pastor Julie Belew and Jeff Henquinet continue to work in the Copper Country (U.P.) and with KBIC.

And, we are beginning to develop contacts in the Rapid River, Michigan area.

To learn more details about these activities of engagement, see this [article on our website](#).

We also know of pastors and lay people from our synod who have engaged in developing relationships with tribal people for many years. We all have so more to learn from each other. God's Spirit of love and hope is going before us.

---

## **Messiah Church Directory Updates**

It is time to update and print a new church directory for the 2021-22 academic year. If your address or phone number have changed, please contact the church office [office@messiahlutheranmgt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmgt.org), or note the changes on the print-out on the welcome table by the church office. We'd appreciate receiving these changes by Labor Day weekend September 5. Thank you!

---

## **Worship Volunteers/Flower Deliverers Needed**

Now that we are worshipping together in the sanctuary, we are in need of people to volunteer in worship. Please consider some of the worship volunteer roles: greeter, usher, reader, communion assistant, or assisting minister.

After the 10:30 service, a volunteer delivers the altar flowers to people who are homebound or in the hospital or in nursing homes, or to people who are celebrating anniversaries or birthdays. If you haven't volunteered for this job before, it's a fun way to connect with people--and who doesn't enjoy receiving a beautiful bouquet?

Please contact Inga in the church office if you can help in any way or if you'd like to know more about what each job involves. The church belongs to the people—we invite you to contribute to our worship life as a community!

---

### **Assistance for Our Asylum Family**

Our asylum family has arrived and we are thankful for everyone who has offered their time to help them settle in to their new home. They are in need of a used vacuum cleaner. If you have one to provide, please contact the church office. Thank you!

---

### **Donations for Our Asylum Family**

During the first year our family is with us they are not allowed to work or to receive governmental aid. We are hoping to raise funds from church members and the wider community for housing, food, medical and legal concerns, clothing, transportation, and more. We received a check and the following letter last week:

Please find an enclosed check to be used for relocation needs for the family seeking asylum. I became aware of your congregational involvement and support of assisting a family through our dear friends Ann and Barry Johnson. I am extremely interested in your efforts as I helped resettle “boat people” of Vietnam in the 70s and 80s. I was also a pediatric nurser in a refugee camp in Thailand and experienced the physical and mental health needs of those leaving their homeland.

Fleeing danger is an incredibly risky undertaking. The assistance you will provide for this family will be pivotal in re-establishing their lives.

Thank you for all the work and guidance you will provide for this family. And, blessings to your congregation for stepping out to put faith into action.

---

### **BLESSING THE TREES Saturday Mornings September 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**



Meet at Messiah's Parking Lot at 8:45 A.M. Leaving for Big Bay where we will stop for a brief orientation at the Community Presbyterian Church, then on to our planting of 250 trees on each of two consecutive days. All are welcome. This is not a typical commercial-like tree planting event. Each seedling is placed into the ground with prayer. Many of them will be accompanied by a specific name in memory of a loved one.

This is an opportunity to make a difference. Gently. With an investment in protecting our environment for future generations. Volunteers, young and old, from Wild Church and the Yellow Dog Community Forest will be with us. Rain or shine!

If you wish to help us or for more information call Ken Kelley 906-869-1911. Donations for trees are always welcome at \$5 per tree. Please list a name for whom you wish the tree to be planted along with your contribution so prayers will be lifted up accordingly. Donations can be dropped off to the Messiah Lutheran Church office; Checks can be made out to the Cedar Tree Institute or you can make a donation via the CTI website at [cedartreeinstitute.org](https://cedartreeinstitute.org). via the Donate Button on the home page.

Martin Luther said it best 400 years ago. "If I know the world would end tomorrow, I would plant a tree!" He believed no matter what happens, love wins.

--Jon Magnuson

---

## Synod Lifelong Learning

The Northern Great Lakes Synod offers a diverse series of online classes for adults who want to increase their knowledge and understanding of the Bible, church history, Lutheran Theology, contemporary Christian issues, and more. Launched in 2020, Lifelong Faith Formation, evolved from the synod's Lay School for Mission.

Lifelong Faith Formation is not driven by an end result, such as graduation from a program. It is not a certification program to become a Licensed Lay Minister. It may play a role in an individual's discernment to participate in a higher accountability program through a neighboring synod (East Central Synod of Wisconsin or Northwest Synod of Wisconsin) or lead to seminary.

If you are interested in becoming a Licensed Lay Minister, please read this article

<https://nglsynod.org/dataarchive/ngls/pdf2017/LaySchoolLetter.pdf>

and contact Bishop Katherine Finegan.

Mostly, Lifelong Faith Formation is designed for curious adults who want to engage more deeply with the Bible, to learn more about church traditions, to become better equipped to serve the work of Christ in their congregations and to grow in spirituality and faith.

While pandemic restrictions have eased, these are still uncertain times. The Synod will continue to offer online classes this fall. **Two special notes:** First, some people may meet as a group out of their own congregations. Second, last year we realized that online learning presents an opportunity to connect people from across the synod—people who share a love of learning and have discovered that adult studies help them to grow in faith. Classes are FREE

but may require the purchase of textbooks or other materials. Students will receive Zoom links from their instructor. For more information or to ask questions, please contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or [lori.ward@nglsynod.org](mailto:lori.ward@nglsynod.org).

For details about fall classes and to register, go to <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/?swcfpc=1>

---

## **Rally Day! - September 12**

We haven't had a church picnic in 2 years, so this is BIG! Join us on September 12th at noon for our Rally Day picnic. There will be food, activities, and the opportunity to socialize and catch up with one another as we begin our Fall rhythms here at Messiah!

---

## **Rally Day - Help with Lifting/Loading**

We are in need of volunteers to help lift and carry tables and chairs on Sunday morning (9/12) before and after our Rally Day picnic. As the date nears, we can pinpoint the time this will happen based on who can help when. Please consider this and know that you will have a fantastic hot dog lunch with delicious sides as well as ice cream at the end! A local Boy Scout troop will be putting up canopy covers for some of the tables.

If you are able to help with setting up and taking down tables and chairs, please contact the church office at 225-1119 or [office@messiahlutheranmqt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmqt.org) Thank you!

---

## **Annual Congregational Meeting - September 12**

Our **rescheduled Congregational Meeting** will be held on **September 12th at 11:30 am in the sanctuary**. Items of business include the approval of the budget and elections (Council, committee members, delegates). All members are encouraged to come and participate. We hope to see you there!

---

## **Pastor Molly's Koinonia Bible Study**

In pre-pandemic times, Pastor Molly hosted a Bible study where we began our journey through the Bible. It's time that we embark on that journey again! Although it may take all our joined minds to remember what chapter of Genesis we were on, we will finally be able to gather to enjoy each other's wisdom, ask the tough questions, and to delve deeper into the Word of God. Bring your Bible and your curiosity and join Pastor Molly on Thursdays at 10:30 am in the atrium.

---

## **Livestream Sponsorship**

We are adding another weekly sponsorship item for you to consider. Along with sponsoring the Altar Flowers or the Radio Broadcast, we are adding Livestream. If you would like to sponsor our livestream on any given Sunday, contact the office at 225-1119 or [office@messaihlutheanmqt.org](mailto:office@messaihlutheanmqt.org). The cost of the Livestream sponsorship is \$110. Similar to Altar Flowers and Radio Broadcast, you can sponsor the Livestream in Memory or in Honor of a loved one. Thank you!

---

## **LWR School Kits**

Messiah's Women Reaching Women Circle will be gathering school supplies for LWR School Kits in August & September. Please consider donating the following items for the kits, which will be sent to students in need in the US and around the world. A bin is available in the narthex for this collection. Thank you!

### LWR School Kits - Items needed

- 70-sheet spiral notebooks, wide- or college-ruled
  - 30 cm ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
  - pencil sharpeners
  - Fiskar-type children's scissors
  - box of 16 or 24 crayons
  - Pink Pearl-type erasers
  - ballpoint pens, blue or black ink (No gel ink)
- 

## **Financial Assistance for Car Seats**

Messiah has been notified of a \$1,500 grant from the Marquette West Rotary for use in our Assistance Fund purchases of infant and child car seats. The funds come from Marquette West Rotary's annual Harborfest.

---

## **Walking Together Event - September 16**

Messiah will be hosting our Synod conference's Walking Together event on Thursday, September 16th at 5:30 pm. It would be wonderful to have a good turnout of people from Messiah so that we can learn about what is happening within the Synod and how we can be involved. This event is a gathering of our conference and will include idea generating conversation, encourage creative solutions, and offer the blessing of being church together with other congregations in our area. If you are interested in coming, please let us know by contacting the church office or signing up on the sheet on the welcome table!

---

## **Volunteer Needed at The New Free Store**

The New Free Store is in need of a volunteer to transport and cash in returnable cans/bottles at the grocery store. They receive approximately 8-10 grocery bags of donated cans/bottles each week. The volunteer would need a car with a large trunk or a back hatch. Please contact Judy Kitchen, TNFS Store Manager at 906-362-8291, if you are interested. Thank you!

---

## **UP Wild**

**August 29**, 4:00 pm: Nature Prayer Service @ Presque Isle Gazebo in Marquette followed by potluck & NMU Hoop House volunteer opportunity

***For further details: [www.upwild.org](http://www.upwild.org) / [lanni@upwild.org](mailto:lanni@upwild.org) / 906-251-0065***

---

## **Devotions Link**

**[www.prayfaithfully.org](http://www.prayfaithfully.org)** is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

---

## **Special Events for August and September**

August 26 MOPS Open House at 5:30 pm - in person

September 6 Church office closed for Labor Day

September 12 Annual Meeting for 2020 at 11:30 am

September 12 Rally Day Picnic at 12:00 pm

September 19 Sunday School starts

September 26 Bible Sunday for 3-year-olds, 3rd graders & 6th graders

---

## **Zoom Qi Gong for Health & Wellness**

It's often an effort to keep moving as we age. Our health tosses in so many roadblocks, increasingly.

It was so much easier in our youth: Hop up and go and the body responded.

It does keep our mind active to continually adjust to circumstances and find our way through. Wherever you are in this journey, wishing you blessings.

Zoom Qi Gong is held on Tuesdays from 12:00 - 1:00 pm. It is lead by Diana Magnuson (906-362-9386 or [magnusondiana@gmail.com](mailto:magnusondiana@gmail.com))

Each class member applies their own range of motion to the qigong exercises, standing or chair. We use body structure for balance, stress and pain relief in daily life; walking, turning, lifting, reaching, sitting. The gentle movements can also be used with prayer disciplines, using



breathing as an essential component. Members turn off video and mute while I lead. It's a welcome anonymity -no competition, rest as you wish. In the beginning and at the end, we review together. Instead of a fee, we invite you to make a contribution to Messiah Lutheran Church's food bank at any time as a sign of thanksgiving.

---

## **In the Hospital**

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pastor Andrew Plocher and Pastor Molly Eversoll would like to visit you while you are there. If you can't notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

---

## **In Our Prayers**

Carol Steinhaus; Jason & Jen Elsenbroek & family upon the passing of Jason's father Jim; Jeff & Sally Olson & family upon the passing of Jeff's father Sigward Olson; Lowell & Pearl Larson & family upon the passing of Pearl's brother Wesley Maki; Dick Toyra; Shawn; Owen, Becky & Joe; Ed Puska, Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Martha; Ann Lahti; Grace Wurster; Marjorie Vidlund; Mike McGrath; Jean Rahilly; Chris Heiskanen; Brian; Sigurds Janners; Chris; Phyllis; Jon; Larry Pagel; Lee; Wil; Jamie Baril; Johnnie; Ray Hasenhauer; Erin Andrews; Tina & her roommate; Matthew Williamson; Linda Ruohoniemi; Jim Shirtz; Cheryl; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Karen Johnson; Jill Krah; Michael Orhanen; Kristina Asta; Alli & Johann Elsenbroek; Alison Cory; John; Sierra; Sandy; Charlene Avery; Liz Kro

*Note: You may call the church office or talk to one of the pastors, if you would like a person named in the congregation's prayers. Please obtain permission from the person to list his/her name in the bulletin. In order to keep the list up to date and manageable in size, we will list each person for a short time, after which the name will be removed. If at that point, you would like to continue listing the person, please call the church office or speak to one of the pastors.*

---

## **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call August 25, 29-31, September 1.

Pastor Molly is on call August 26-28.

---

## **Messiah Newsletters**

Messiah newsletters and the weekly E-news are all available at [www.messiahlutheranmgt.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmgt.org). The online Messenger (monthly newsletter) includes all the stories and information but saves the paper!

---

## **Scripture Reading This Week – 14th Sunday after Pentecost**

**First Reading**.....*Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9*

**Gospel Reading**.....*Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

---

## **Worship Volunteers**

### **Saturday August 28– 5:00 pm in sanctuary**

Ushers: Carol Bell

Assisting Minister: Diana Peterson

### **Sunday August 29–8:30 am in sanctuary and on 101.9 FM, Vimeo and Facebook**

Ushers: Al and Gail Edgar

Reader: Fred Maynard

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Fred Maynard, Terry Langenberg

Greeters: Cathy Seblonka

Assisting Minister: Larry Pagel

### **Sunday August 29–10:30 am in sanctuary and on Vimeo and Facebook**

Ushers: Conrad and Renee Jewett

Reader: Renee Jewett

Communion Assistants: Bev Evans, Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman

Greeters: Bev Evans

Assisting Minister: Susan Shaver

---

## **Announcements and Classified Ads**

---

### **Do you have an announcement?**

Send announcements and ads to Inga Banitt ([inga@messiahlutheranmqmt.org](mailto:inga@messiahlutheranmqmt.org)). Send concert or performance information, yard sale announcements, party invitations, requests for babysitters, yard maintenance, rooms for rent and items for sale. We will run announcements for two weeks. E-newsletter deadline is noon on Tuesdays.

---

## Messiah Contact Information

Messiah Lutheran Church  
305 W. Magnetic St.  
Marquette, MI 49855  
906-225-1119  
906-225-5025 (fax)  
Email: [office@messiahlutheranmqt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmqt.org)  
Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org/>

### Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor:  
Andrew Plocher  
906-373-6036

Associate Pastor:  
Molly Eversoll  
312-576-7353

### Support Staff

Parish Administrator:  
Jennifer Dodge  
906-235-4921

Administrative Assistant:  
Inga Banitt  
906-362-1545

Messiah Custodian:  
Kevin McGrath  
906-226-2097

Parish Accountant:  
Mike Hill  
906-228-2544

Financial Secretary:

Nancy Hoover

612-419-3000

## **Music Staff**

Music Director:

David Dagenais

906-869-1441

Bell Choir Director:

Judy Quirk

906-228-6729

Organist:

Kathy Strazzinski

906-869-7871

Pianist:

Lynne Lanczy

906-235-4431